



**MINUTES**  
**SUMMER BUSINESS MEETING**  
**ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION**  
**JULY 29, 2021**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C.**

**MEETING  
ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
Zoom  
July 29, 2021**

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

**Call to Order 1:30 p.m. EDT**

- I. Vice Chairman's Welcome and Report
- II. Executive Director's Report
- III. Climate Change and Adaptation
- IV. Historic Preservation Policy and Programs
  - A. Legislation
  - B. Other Reports
- V. Section 106
  - A. Section 106 and Infrastructure and Surface Transportation Legislation
  - B. Implementation Status of Action Plans
  - C. Other Reports
- VI. Native American Affairs
  - A. Other Reports
- VII. Communications, Education, and Outreach
  - A. Student Engagement Webinar Series
  - B. Other Reports
- VIII. New Business
- IX. Adjourn

**IN ATTENDANCE**

**Jordan Tannenbaum**, Vice Chairman  
**John Finley**  
**Rick Gonzalez**  
**Kristopher King**  
**Luke Nichter**  
**Jay Vogt**

Architect of the Capitol

**J. Brett Blanton**

Secretary of Defense

Represented by:

**Richard Kidd**  
Deputy Assistant  
Secretary of Defense  
for Environment and  
Energy Resilience

Administrator, General Services Administration

Represented by:

**Beth Savage**  
Director, Center for  
Historic Buildings,  
Public Buildings  
Service

Secretary of Homeland Security

Represented by:

**Teresa Pohlman**  
Executive Director,  
Sustainability and  
Environmental  
Programs

Secretary of Housing and Urban Development

Represented by:

**Kevin Bush**  
Deputy Assistant  
Secretary for  
Grant Programs, Office  
of Community Planning  
and Development

Secretary of the Interior

Represented by:

**Caroline Henry**  
Federal Preservation  
Officer

Secretary of Transportation

Represented by:

**Christopher Coes**  
Principal Deputy  
Assistant Secretary for  
Transportation Policy

**Colleen Vaughn**  
Federal Preservation  
Officer

Secretary of Veterans Affairs

Represented by:

**Anthony Costa**  
Deputy Executive  
Director, Office of  
Construction and  
Facilities Management

Mayor Member

**Hon. Robert Simison**  
Meridian, Idaho

Indian Tribe Member

**Reno Keoni Franklin**  
Chairman Emeritus, Kashia  
Band of Pomo Indians

President, National Conference of State Historic  
Preservation Officers

**Ramona Bartos**  
North Carolina Deputy State  
Historic Preservation Officer

**Erik Hein**  
Executive Director,  
NCSHPO

General Chairman, National Association of Tribal Historic  
Preservation Officers

**Shasta Gaughen**  
Pala Band of Mission Indians  
Tribal Historic Preservation  
Officer

**Valerie Grussing**  
Executive Director,  
NATHPO

Chair, National Trust for Historic Preservation

Represented by:  
**Paul Edmondson**  
President

**Elizabeth Merritt**  
Deputy General  
Counsel

### **OBSERVERS**

Chair, Council on Environmental Quality

Represented by:  
**Jomar Maldonado**  
Associate Director for  
NEPA

Chair, National Alliance of Preservation Commissions

**Cory Kegerise**  
Pennsylvania Historical and  
Museum Commission

Preserve America Youth Summits

**Ann Alexander Walker**  
Program Director

President, ACHP Foundation

**Katherine Slick**  
Historic Preservation Consultant

In attendance and participating in the meeting were ACHP Acting Executive Director Reid Nelson; ACHP Office Directors Susan Glimcher, Javier Marques, and Druscilla Null.

## **PROCEEDINGS**

### **Chairman's Welcome**

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) Vice Chairman Jordan Tannenbaum opened the summer business meeting at 1:32 p.m. The agenda was adopted with a motion by Reno Franklin and second by Luke Nichter. Vice Chairman Tannenbaum appointed Shayla Shrieves recorder of the meeting, and she called the roll of members for attendance. The minutes of the April business meeting were adopted with a motion by Beth Savage and second by Ramona Bartos. Vice Chairman Tannenbaum acknowledged that Christopher Coes, the Department of Transportation's (DOT) Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy, would join later in the meeting. He is DOT's designee to the ACHP.

### **Chairman's Report**

Vice Chairman Tannenbaum gave an overview of some of his activities since he was made acting chairman on June 11, at the same time he was designated the vice chairman and appointed to a second term.

He thanked Rick Gonzalez for the outstanding work that he did as vice chairman, following Chairman Aimee Jorjani's resignation. He thanked all of the members and staff for their work in preparing for the unassembled meeting to get the approval to write in support of the Save Oak Flat Act. Vice Chairman Tannenbaum sent the letter to the Senate committee and House leadership a few weeks ago. He noted that the ACHP does not often comment on site-specific legislation, but since this bill had a direct bearing on ACHP comments to the Secretary of Agriculture on the Resolution Copper project in March, it was appropriate to do so.

He participated in a number of meetings connected with America250. The ACHP is helping develop plans for commemorating America's 250th anniversary in 2026 by participating in a number of committees. He said the ACHP is focused on the committee dealing with historic preservation. This opportunity allows the agency to highlight the work it is doing to preserve the places that commemorate America's history and to tell its true and full stories. Vice Chairman Tanenbaum said he is proud that the ACHP has been urging America250 to engage the tribal voice, and he will continue to advocate for constructive involvement of tribes in this process. Additionally, there will be opportunities to pursue broader goals and interests, such as policy and possibly even legislative improvements as a part of America250.

He said he will be signing a Memorandum of Understanding with the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission and other agencies in a ceremony at the Library of Congress in the Librarian's Office. It sets forth the goals of America250.

He thanked Valerie Hauser for advising and preparing him for his participation in the White House Council on Native American Affairs, which has been reconvened under the current Administration, to honor and improve government-to-government relationships with Indian tribes. The ACHP serves on a number of subcommittees under the White House Council, and the next meeting is on August 6.

Vice Chairman Tannenbaum has an upcoming meeting with Christine Harada, the newly appointed executive director of the Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council. He applauded Reid Nelson's and Blythe Semmer's leadership, which has resulted in the ACHP being an effective and engaged member of the Permitting Council since its inception.

## **New Chairman**

Vice Chairman Tannenbaum noted that President Joe Biden nominated Professor Sara Bronin as ACHP chairman. The White House sent her nomination to the Senate on July 13. On that same day, the nomination was referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. He said all of her paperwork is in, and ACHP staff is communicating with the committee staff. The hearing has not yet been scheduled. It is likely to be scheduled after the summer recess, probably in late September or October.

## **Acting Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Nelson said the ACHP received a budget passback for FY 2022 from the Administration in the order of \$8.255 million, which was a little more than an 11 percent increase over the current year. The House of Representatives supported that figure in its spending bill. He is hopeful the agency will see that increase, perhaps more, once Congress finishes its work on appropriations. He is also in the process of recruiting for the Assistant Director for Federal Property Management position within the Office of Federal Agency Programs (OFAP). Tom McCulloch, who had been in that position for many years, retired after 36 years with the ACHP. Mr. Nelson is scheduling interviews soon on a second National Park Service (NPS) Liaison. He thanked colleagues at the NPS and Department of the Interior (DOI) for their support of a second position.

## **Office Reopening**

Mr. Nelson said members likely are aware that the Administration has been giving guidance to agencies on what a reasonable office reopening process should look like. At this point, he is tentatively aiming for reopening starting in early October, but that is not a hard and fast date. The Delta variant poses many questions, and that might affect the reopening plans.

He underscored that even when the agency reopens, it will look quite different. He said as the ACHP reopens, it will be under a new telework policy that will allow significantly more telework to the staff. Reopening will begin gradually, and far fewer people will be in the office at any one time.

Mr. Franklin said he wanted to take the time to thank Mr. Gonzalez for his service as the vice chairman, acting as chairman earlier this year.

## **Climate Change and Adaptation**

Vice Chairman Tannenbaum opened a discussion of the Administration's focus on climate change. The ACHP has an opportunity to help better define how climate change and response or mitigation activities can affect historic properties, and to assist the Administration and others in addressing these serious effects. He acknowledged the leadership of the Secretary of the Interior and the Chair of the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ). Caroline Henry updated members on where DOI's climate action plan stands and what will be some of the highlights. The action plan is now in its final draft. She expects Interior Secretary Deb Haaland to sign and approve it next month.

She added that questions are going to come up regarding the content about how the plan dovetails with other agencies' work and with the priorities and activities of the ACHP. The plan will identify five vulnerabilities, namely: people, communities, and cultural resources; healthy watersheds and water supplies; biodiversity and ecosystems; coastal and marine resources; and infrastructure and facilities.

There will be adaptation actions identified in the plan and implementation strategies. That will present the opportunity for partnership and collaboration with other federal agencies. She said that will mean

resource sharing in some cases. DOI is looking at an overall government approach in order to act on these implementation strategies.

Jomar Maldonado said CEQ is reviewing all the agencies' climate action plans. CEQ's Office of the Federal Chief Sustainability Officer has been providing input together with the Office of Management and Budget during development of those plans. He added that this is a critical time in addressing the Administration's priorities of climate change, environmental justice, and infrastructure.

He said he hopes a lot of the elements of the infrastructure package are going to address some of these challenges related to the climate crisis, as well as ensuring environmental justice throughout. CEQ recognizes the impacts that climate change has on historic properties. One thing Mr. Maldonado noticed in the meetings last week is there are opportunities that the ACHP and the various committees will want to explore in this area. He offered CEQ's assistance to the ACHP and also thanked the ACHP for identifying members for the America the Beautiful workgroup.

Vice Chairman Tannenbaum asked the committee chairmen to report on their deliberations on this particular topic and recommendations on how the ACHP can best position itself to assist the Administration, agencies, and others with climate change and its effects on historic properties.

Mr. Gonzalez thanked Jay Vogt and Mr. Franklin for their help in the committee work. He said the Preservation Initiatives (PI) Committee had a good discussion on the need to raise the awareness of the Administration and Congress about climate change issues that historic places are facing right now.

The ACHP has reached out to the Administration already to comment on proposals such as the proposed creation of the Civilian Climate Corps, the America the Beautiful Initiative, and environmental justice activities. Once the new ACHP chairman is confirmed, Mr. Gonzalez hopes she will be able to get the agency's message out to Congress quickly. The PI Committee discussed: the inherent energy efficiency and climate-positive nature of historic buildings; the need to consider climate impacts on historic properties when addressing resilience and adaptation measures; and also the need to mitigate the effects of clean energy development on historic properties. Policy issues considered by the PI Committee included the following: the potential benefit of an executive order on climate and historic properties; how to address managed retreat of communities and the unavoidable loss of historic properties; and the importance of considering all types of historic properties, from landmarks, individual properties to districts, buildings, cultural resources, and other places. He noted that the PI Committee supports the creation of an ACHP task force on climate change.

Teresa Pohlman asked Mr. Maldonado for clarification on the different conservation corps and groups. She said the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is looking at forming its own civilian climate corps. She would like to fit that in with the Administration's efforts. Mr. Maldonado said the America the Beautiful initiative is separate from the Civilian Climate Corps. The Civilian Climate Corps came about as part of Executive Order 14008, and it tasked DOI to work on what that will entail. There are also discussions on the Hill on funding for such an initiative.

At this time, Mr. Coes joined the meeting, and Vice Chairman Tannenbaum asked him to introduce himself. He said it was a pleasure to finally join the ACHP. He said DOT just announced a bipartisan infrastructure deal that will enable a very deep, enriching conversation about how we can reconnect communities that have been long either overburdened by destructive transportation investments or underserved.

He posed the following questions: how do we create and protect cultural historic sites? Also, how can we provide greater technical assistance and capacity to communities who address environment justice issues? How do we modernize our roads and bridges as well as provide more affordable transportation systems to

create more resilient, healthy, prosperous communities with one of the best transportation systems in the world?

Katherine Slick said there was an article in the *New York Times* last week about Charleston, South Carolina, and resiliency planning. The article cited that DHS, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and the Biden Administration had doubled the amount of money to go toward resiliency planning at the local level. She wondered how that fits into this conversation.

Dr. Pohlman said, speaking for DHS and FEMA, that this funding is the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program. Prior to this year, the minimal amount that was going into the program was \$500 million. Because of the new emphasis on climate change and resilience, the Administration announced that it would be doubling that funding. She said they are trying to reach a larger portion of the communities within the United States with these grants. These communities deserve the right to be heard and the right to receive the money and become resilient, she said.

There is a lot happening within the BRIC program right now, and leaders are rethinking and reformatting the application process, trying to streamline everything for communities to get the money where it is needed quickly.

Dr. Nichter said the *Times* article is a stunning example of where climate change meets the mission of the ACHP. It raised so many questions that were transformative to his thinking in terms of the future of other sites. It is an example of the sites that have the funding to make climate resiliency modifications. What about the many others that do not?

Mr. Vogt said that on the Federal Agency Programs (FAP) Committee call, he focused on how to highlight the links between natural and cultural resources. Members are also looking at linkages with the priorities that federal agencies have in their own climate change response efforts and how to be involved in that. We have the challenge of reacting to specific undertakings while climate change raises larger questions about where infrastructure, especially with historic properties, is maintained, planned, or abandoned.

He said the committee believes project case studies would help federal agency staff and other decision makers understand the natural-cultural connections, and how climate adaptation work can benefit both kinds of resources. Federal agency members mentioned that programmatic approaches could help them. For example, climate adaptation for federal facilities, such as installing an electric fleet infrastructure. The committee acknowledged the importance of digital information, knowing where cultural and historic property resources are located. This will allow transparency when renewable energy projects are proposed or when natural disasters strike. Knowing that information can help preserve those properties and having it in a digital format makes it easily accessible by State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPOs), Tribal Historic Preservation Offices (THPOs), and the federal agencies. He said the committee supports the formation of a climate change task force.

John Finley pointed out that when he read through all the ways in which the ACHP wants to affect the federal government in integrating, coordinating, and advocating on issues that affect historic and cultural preservation, there are some suggestions that are specific to protecting a cultural site. For example, if you are going to put solar panels on a historic house, how do you do that in a way that is workable? However, if you are worried about climate impacts on Harriet Tubman's historic site, rising waters affect every place in the neighborhood, and it is not unique to that house.

He said some of the areas of concern are directly on point, like sustainable design and federal undertakings; they seem very specific to cultural-historic preservation. Others seem like they would have been applicable, whether before or after climate change. For example, emergency provisions. There were



floods and there were earthquakes before, and do we already have proper responses that relate to cultural sites?

He asked, are we prioritizing those that are very specific to cultural resources, or just more generally because cultural and historic sites get affected like all sites get affected, and therefore we want to weigh in? He asked, are we being consciously precise to where we want to use our voice to specifically address cultural historic sites?

Mr. Vogt answered that a lot of these things related to climate change, or may get worse because of climate change. Part of it is that DOI already has a lot of guidance on how to approach some of these challenges. What the ACHP needs to do is work with federal agencies and figure out which issues to approach first. He suggested working together when somebody is solving one problem, we may be able to solve one of our problems at the same time.

Mr. Nelson said he thought Mr. Finley hit the nail on the head. He wants to help everybody understand that climate change is generally affecting everything and everybody, and it is also affecting historic properties. People need to understand that linkage. Then come up with some specific advice and examples on how agencies have dealt with the direct impacts to historic properties.

Dr. Pohlman said DHS has been funded in FY 2022 for electrification of the fleet. They really need help as far as the programmatic approach for this program and how to address impacts to historic properties. She hopes the ACHP can assist.

Ms. Henry noted that DOI's climate action plan is looking to ensure that for each of the adaptation actions, a significant component of the plan also talks about accomplishments. These are the existing programs for the most part, either short-term or long-term programs in DOI that address these areas.

Mr. Gonzalez said Marty Hylton has been appointed the Historic Architect for Climate Change Adaptation, a new position at NPS. He said Mr. Hylton did the scanning and videotaping of Nantucket and St. Augustine, and how both would transform over the next 10, 20, 30 years all the way to 2100, and it is frightening what the images show in terms of climate and water and damage.

Mr. Franklin reported on the Native American Affairs (NAA) Committee's discussion, which was a very clear acknowledgment that indigenous peoples around the world are dealing with climate change and the impacts by fires and floods and drought. He wants to provide solutions, background, and advocacy for the territories as well.

The main takeaway was in discussions around equity in terms of funding and other assistance to tribes and Native Hawaiians and how the ACHP addresses those concerns when it comes to climate change.

One of the examples that was brought up was fires and how, during fires, THPO tribes have a good footing because they have highly educated or highly experienced staff who can deal with Section 106 issues when they are doing remediation and clean-up projects. They have the ability to quickly respond and put people into the field. If you are not THPO tribe, you are likely not going to have the ability to do that.

The committee reviewed the tribal resilience paper that was provided in the meeting book and generally agreed with the overall aims. He decided that the staff will reorganize and tighten up some of the items by creating a new plan or continue to build a new plan, and get that out to the committee members and the full council membership. The committee also agreed a task force is needed on climate change.

He suggested a focus of prevention in order to get ahead of these challenges instead of being so reactive when it comes to the effects of climate change on historic resources.

He said they talked about the possibility of bringing some of these ideas to the America the Beautiful initiative. The committee thinks there are resiliency portions within that initiative that are perfect for some recommendations from the ACHP.

Vice Chairman Tannenbaum said since every one of the committees came up with a suggestion to establish a task force, he intends to do so. If anyone is interested in becoming a member of the group, please let him or Mr. Nelson know. He will be establishing a timeline and a charge for the task force. Kevin Bush, Shasta Gaughen, and the DOT noted in the Chat that they would like to serve on the task force.

Ms. Slick said it might be useful to have an agency like former Observer member NOAA/Department of Commerce on the task force, since climate and resiliency are part of their portfolio quite directly. In years past, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was also an Observer, and so that might be a way to think about broadening the experience and bring them into what the discussions might be.

### **Historic Preservation Policy and Programs**

Mr. Gonzalez gave special thanks to Dru Null and the whole staff. He said the PI Committee talked about three motions on legislation. He made the first motion, moving that the ACHP supports addressing the protection of cultural resources through the work of climate corps and conservation corps, and directs the chairman to advise the Congress of this support and to urge inclusion of specific references to cultural resources in corps-related legislation. Mr. Finley seconded it.

Mr. Gonzalez added that this is an excellent example of how to can cross-pollinate and get the ACHP's historic agenda aligned with other agendas, especially the critical climate change issues.

Ms. Shrieves did a roll call vote, and the motion passed with 16 yeas and three abstentions.

Mr. Gonzalez went to the second motion, moving that the ACHP supports current provisions in the Surface Transportation Reauthorization Act (S. 1931), Investing in a New Vision for the Environment and Surface Transportation, "INVEST," in America Act (H.R. 3684), and the Surface Transportation Investment Act (S.2016) relating to the HPF, the ACHP Program Comment on Rail ROW, Transportation Alternatives Funding, and context-sensitive design; and supports including the provisions of the Historic Tax Credit Growth and Opportunity HTC-GO Act (S.2266/H.R. 2294), as part of surface transportation/infrastructure legislation; and directs the chairman to advise the Congress of this support. Dr. Nichter seconded it.

Ms. Savage asked if there is a Statement of Administration Policy (SAP) for this and could Mr. Gonzalez identify which pieces there is and is not an SAP on.

Ms. Null said the last that she saw, there was an SAP on the House bill, the INVEST Act, but not on the Senate bills. The Administration is in support and has obviously shown support for the bipartisan bill that the Senate is now putting together, which will no doubt include chunks of these Senate bills, but she does not have an actual text of that new bipartisan infrastructure or surface transportation bill yet.

Mr. Bush said if the vice chairman does not mind a number of abstentions, he would not need to change the motion, but if he wanted some yeses, he could probably split it up a little more. Brett Blanton said from his perspective, with a completely apolitical, nonpartisan job, without seeing the language, it is premature for him to opine.

Vice Chairman Tannenbaum asked if members wanted to amend the motion. Mr. Nelson suggested that if there are a number of federal members who are open to the possibility of voting affirmatively but would benefit from seeing both the language and a clear description of which portions of these had an SAP, he would prefer doing that subsequently to today, and better guaranteeing that this pass than seeing it fail today.

Mr. Gonzalez said if no one objects, he would like to withdraw the motion. Vice Chairman Tannenbaum approved the withdrawal.

Mr. Gonzalez continued with the third motion, moving that the ACHP supports the Historic Tax Credit Growth and Opportunity, HTC-GO Act (S. 2266/H.R. 2294), and the intent of the Revitalizing Economies, Housing, And Businesses Act (REHAB) (H.R. 1483); and directs the chairman to advise the Congress of this support while expressing concern that the REHAB Act not unintentionally discourage use of the existing tax credit for rehabilitation of historic structures. Mr. Vogt seconded it.

Ms. Savage asked if there is an SAP for this one. Ms. Null said there is no SAP on either of these yet.

Vice Chairman Tannenbaum asked if he should take the same step as before and withdraw the motion and come back. Mr. Nelson said he would first caution members to consider whether such a statement will be forthcoming anytime soon, and whether such a statement, should it eventually come, be too late. Maybe it is worth talking now about whether a vote going forward now might make sense on this one.

Javier Marqués said for votes like this on legislation, all that is needed is the majority vote of those present and voting. The abstentions do not count as a negative vote.

Mayor Robert Simison said he would either be abstaining or voting no on all issues where the ACHP is taking a position for or against any introduced bill. He said from his personal viewpoint, in reading the charter of the ACHP, that goes beyond advising from his perspective.

Ms. Bartos said she would like to encourage going back to the second motion regarding the INVEST in America Act. That deals with the Historic Preservation Fund's permanent authorization and doubling of the current amount. That would be vitally important to efforts to promote the national preservation program. Mr. Nelson said that makes sense, and the only reason he entertained any other action was the suggestion that members had not had a chance to see the language.

Paul Edmondson said he was totally in agreement with Ms. Bartos and Mr. Gonzalez. Not only in terms of the funding, but particularly the HTC-GO Act, which the National Trust thinks is extremely important.

Mr. Gonzalez reintroduced the withdrawn motion. Dr. Nichter seconded it again.

Ms. Shrieves called the roll. The motion passed with 10 yeas and nine abstentions. Then members voted on the third motion. It also passed with 10 yeas and nine abstentions.

Vice Chairman Tannenbaum said the next item was the Amache National Historic Site Act, which would establish Amache, a World War II-era Japanese American incarceration facility outside of Granada, Colorado, as part of the National Park System. Mr. Gonzalez said Ann Walker suggested at the committee meeting last week that members might want to consider supporting this important bill which is being fast-tracked in Congress. The Amache National Historic Landmark was designated in 2006. In 2013, the ACHP designated the Amache Preservation Society as a Preserve America Steward in recognition of its grassroots efforts to preserve and interpret the site.

In 2019, Congress directed DOI to conduct a special resources study to determine the feasibility of adding this site to the National Park System. He understands that DOI has worked with the House Natural Resources Committee on amendments to the bill, yet there is no official SAP on the bill.

Ms. Null said the ACHP does not usually weigh in on site-specific bills, but there are situations where it is important for the agency to do so. In 2018, the ACHP adopted an internal policy that set out criteria to consider when the ACHP might want to weigh in on a site-specific bill. In this particular case, at least two of those criteria clearly apply. One is that the legislation addresses a highly significant historic property. The other criteria is that the legislation would advance an established ACHP policy goal. Clearly, this legislation is in keeping with the ACHP's attempts to build a more inclusive preservation program and make sure that preservation is telling the story of all Americans.

The bill came out of committee with some amendments; the bill went to the full House, and on Monday it was considered by the House. Ms. Null further reported that there was no acrimonious debate in the House; there were just two bipartisan statements of support on the bill. A voice vote took place on Monday, which indicated that the bill was going to pass. Then a Member called for a roll call vote. There is a rule in the House where you can postpone a roll call vote, and cluster it with some other bills later on. That is what they did. Ms. Null's understanding is that today the bill, as well as this other cluster of bills are, due for a roll call vote.

That does not mean that the ACHP commenting at this point would be pointless, because the Senate has done nothing yet with the bill, she said.

Ms. Walker thanked members for considering this. The study for it has been completed. The land is already in public ownership owned by the county. She said what is interesting is the depth of its bipartisan support. To be able to achieve this next level of protection would be really helpful. Also notably, for years, this site has been maintained by the local high school and the high school students. This is a very rural community and the designation would be a great economic development catalyst for the area.

Ms. Slick said this raises an interesting opportunity regarding building a more inclusive preservation program. She encouraged members to think about other bills that may be out there. For example, bills concerning the Rosenwald Schools and African American burial sites. It is useful to think about other site-specific pieces of legislation that the ACHP could support, and why.

Mr. Franklin said this whole subject is a little touchy and tough. He said he was taught to constantly be learning from the past and carrying it forward. He said he would be happy to make a motion.

Mr. Gonzalez read the motion: that the ACHP supports the Amache National Historic Site Act, (S. 1284 H.R.2497); and directs the chairman to advise the Congress of this support. Dr. Gaughen seconded it.

Mr. Vogt asked about the result of the study that the NPS conducted on this particular site and what was their recommendation. Ms. Walker said the recommendation was that it would be best protected as a national historic site. There was some discussion about the boundaries. Being in that part of the state, the boundary is defined by its ownership by the county so that it would not impact any privately held land. Ms. Henry said DOI asked for some revised language in the bill in a previous version, and all of its requests have been accommodated.

Ms. Shrieves called the roll, and the motion passed with 11 yeas and eight abstentions.

## **Section 106 and Infrastructure and Surface Transportation Legislation**

Vice Chairman Tannenbaum said the ACHP has had a long-standing interest in infrastructure and surface transportation. Not only from a policy perspective but also from the vantage point of what the ACHP can do to help agencies advance their environmental reviews for such projects.

Mr. Vogt said the FAP Committee discussed how workload could be affected by new infrastructure funding, and where Section 106 pinch points might occur for the ACHP, for SHPOs and THPOs. This returned the committee to the conversation of the importance of digital records and mapping in support of efficient reviews and decision making.

While preservation organizations have advocated for funding for mapping and digitization, the connection to preservation review efficiency is not always well understood. More emphasis from the ACHP on the benefits is needed, particularly when it communicates with Congress on infrastructure legislation.

Digitization is not the entire answer. Human resources are also a factor. He said they must ensure agencies, SHPOs, and THPOs have adequate Section 106 staff. Applicant-driven projects, such as broadband expansion, means that there is a need to provide information and training about Section 106 to those who are unfamiliar with it. The ACHP can assist with training and information including more tailored training for individuals and organizations. However, applicants need to know they need the training.

Vice Chairman Tannenbaum noted Mr. Coes had left the meeting and asked Colleen Vaughn to respond for DOT. She said within the infrastructure bill itself, there is a huge focus on electric vehicles, especially charging stations. She said they are looking at new areas of formula grants and loan programs that are focused on resiliency, as well as looking at building in resiliency as part of the project delivery process. Also, focusing on environmental justice and equity, and ensuring that those areas are touched upon.

She said DOT is also interested in working with the ACHP as they continue to push forward with these initiatives, and whatever she can do working with ACHP members to streamline processes. Vice Chairman Tannenbaum said he would ask that question of the other federal members here. How can the ACHP best assist agencies in addressing the infrastructure needs?

Ms. Vaughn said she thinks additional streamlining measures are a good idea. Other agencies are also looking at electric vehicles and building up that type of infrastructure, and what can they do coming together to build some sort of programmatic approach that is a benefit to everyone.

Dr. Pohlman said she thinks they need to figure out who pays for participation in the Section 106 process, as far as paying for the work done by the SHPOs and THPOs. She asked if the ACHP could clarify the regulations and help agencies with implementing some kind of payback schedule or whatever is needed.

Mr. Nelson said one of the things the ACHP could easily do is to remind members of the 2015 plan and the guidance that came out of it that about reimbursements in the Section 106 review process. He also has a Section 106 Success Story that talks about how agencies worked, in this case with the California SHPO, to fund positions within the SHPO.

He suggested that perhaps the Federal Preservation Officer (FPO) forum or some other grouping of FPOs may want to get together, compare notes, then start a discussion with the ACHP, NCSHPO, NATHPO, about what a program alternative might look like. Dr. Pohlman said they also need to bring the Department of Energy into the conversation, because they, along with GSA, are going to be key partners for all of the federal agencies.

Dr. Gaughen explained the difficulty with funding and the expectations that are so high, especially for THPOs who may not have the bandwidth, and tribes without THPOs but who still have the right to consult under Section 106. She said NATHPO would certainly support having something in place to help fill those gaps and make sure that tribes are able to respond in the way that they want to be able to respond.

Erik Hein noted that states certainly could use assistance in doing this. When agencies have been able to provide support for detailees or other types of employees to help get projects through, it has been successful. He said it is not just the states and tribes that need the resources; he hopes federal agencies would look inward and realize that they need them, too.

He said NCSHPO members will be quick to say that the best outcomes are achieved when agencies themselves have the resources and the staff they need to process the applications, to educate their permit applicants and the public on what the process is. The most time that SHPOs spend and the biggest drain of resources are when they have to educate inexperienced agencies, agencies that have one person dedicated to doing environmental review, and when applicants are stepping into a process they have absolutely no preparation for and no guidance. That is an area where really great benefits could be gained.

Vice Chairman Tannenbaum said he wanted to refocus on the area of digitization. There was recently a task force that he headed that came out with recommendations. He said members would like to focus on that issue in particular and send a letter to Congress talking about the importance of investing in digitization as it relates to the infrastructure and its impact on historic properties.

Mr. Vogt offered a motion, moving that the vice chairman convey to Congress the importance of digital information to facilitate efficient review of infrastructure projects and urge the Congress to include resources in infrastructure legislation to support the development of digital tools and information available at the state and tribal levels to better inform and facilitate the federal project planning process. Ms. Bartos seconded it.

Mr. Vogt emphasized that digitization is key for this process, as well as for federal agencies, to be able to get the information they need as they prepare their applications for Section 106 review. Then, making sure that the staffing is in place both at the federal agency level as well as in the states and tribes.

Ms. Shrieves called the roll; the motion passed with 12 yeas, one nay, and six abstentions.

Vice Chairman Tannenbaum asked Mr. Vogt to discuss some of the action plans that OFAP has been working on for recent reports and digitization. Mr. Vogt said the staff reported to the committee that they are continuing to implement the recommendations of each of the three recent reports. Some of the more prominent action items are appropriately waiting for the arrival of the new chairman.

He plans to remain open to advice from members on new opportunities developing within the Administration. He continued that former Chairman Jorjani established a panel of members to review and consider recommendations for improving the program comment development process, without amending the regulations, as more agencies considered Section 106 efficiencies through this program alternative. He led the panel that included Mr. Franklin and Tony Costa. They have considered the input from the membership in formulating a set of recommendations that should help improve transparency and predictability in the process of developing program comments while protecting historic resources. These recommendations do not need to be voted on by the ACHP; that will be something that will be considered by leadership.

### **Native American Affairs Committee**

Mr. Franklin said the Native American Affairs Committee had an active and productive meeting. They discussed climate change and climate resiliency strategies as well as the America the Beautiful initiative.

He said they dove into the traditional knowledge (TK) information and heard that the feedback from tribes has been positive. He is happy to hear that the Administration is interested in the work that is being done around that. Staff will continue to work on the paper that has already been submitted and build out a more useful tool.

Staff has begun working on formal guidance. They will consult with federal, tribal, and Hawaiian partners. He said they are looking at TK and how federal agencies that interact with indigenous peoples can use that as a tool to help them and assist them in doing that in a better way. The ACHP is partnering with EPA's Office of Environmental Justice to host two webinars on TK. The first one is mid-September. The focus is on federal agency work with TK, and he will serve as the indigenous voice to talk about how important it is for federal agencies to respect the work of TK. The second webinar will focus on indigenous perspectives and will take place in mid-October. That one will include both tribal and Hawaiian voices. He welcomed back Ira Matt who came back to work for the ACHP. Then he thanked all of the committee members, and staff who works so hard to get members prepared.

### **Communications, Education, and Outreach Committee**

Dr. Nichter said he also wanted to acknowledge committee members and especially the CEO staff. The Communications, Education, and Outreach (CEO) Committee has offered a series of webinars this past year, directed toward students at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), as well as students at minority serving institutions and with the point of getting more young people in the preservation pipeline at an early age.

He said members have all seen in their own work how web conferencing has changed their lives in the past year, and it has allowed agencies to reach new audiences. The CEO Committee proposes that these webinars in some shape or form become a permanent part of ACHP outreach along with other such platforms, which include podcasts. To date, 304 people registered for the four webinars with a total attendance of 93. There were students from a large variety of HBCUs participating, including students from other institutions including Tulane, Syracuse, Georgia State, University of Georgia, Indiana, University of Houston, University of Texas, and Texas Tech. There were also representatives from the Federal Railroad Administration and the U.S. Agency for Global Media.

During the CEO discussion at the committee meeting last week, the committee came up with some great options for the future, considering new topics, new audiences. They discussed climate change as one, a theme that has not been a major feature yet in the webinars. The committee discussed historic sites related to Black Lives Matter and Civil Rights, historic sites related to Latino and Asian American-Pacific Islander sites, Native American sites, and other suggestions about the process of how to record sites important to society that become eligible for the National Register.

Additionally, the suggestion was made to launch a series of webinars on careers in historic preservation or related fields featuring speakers from a cross-section of disciplines that contribute to preservation including archaeologists, preservationists, SHPOs, THPOs, as well as the idea for a webinar directed toward the military service academies.

He would also like to get input from Latinos in Heritage Conservation (LHC), since two of their directors attended the committee meeting and also had a lot of great ideas. In addition, he noted Ms. Walker's comment that it is important to hear from students about what they would like to learn about. He wants to

see what it is that gets young people the most excited about these subjects and about their future in terms of their career goals going forward. He said staff plans to send an email to all of the 304 who registered for the webinars to ask them what they would like to hear about in the future from the ACHP.

Dr. Nichter continued that the reason the LHC directors were invited to take part in the committee meeting is this is a part of the ACHP's commitment to the principles of inclusiveness through the building a more inclusive preservation program initiative. Members received a briefing of their major initiatives such as the Abuelas Project, an effort to document historic sites significant to the Latino community.

This is something that could easily be expanded to a nationwide project and be a highly innovative project, incorporating GIS mapping data and be highly visual, interactive. In addition to that, members brainstormed ways that the organizations might be able to work together more closely in the future. They came up with a possible collaboration and webinar topics.

He said members talked about possibly having an intern in the fall from the LHC to cross-pollinate, and support joint social media campaigns in the fall and winter. Another important item that came up during the discussion was doing a better job of spreading the word about the Section 106 process to the Latino community. It seemed really important, and Dr. Nichter said he thinks that point resonated with both of the organizations.

He said the ACHP is also looking at building a new relationship with C-SPAN in Washington, D.C. He was formerly the executive producer at C-SPAN and started the "American Artifacts" program, which is part of the American History TV series on C-SPAN 3 every weekend. The concept behind the weekly program is taking viewers behind the scenes to an archive, a museum, or a historic site, and showing them something that might include what a normal member of the visiting public might see that often has a behind the scenes element.

Something visual for TV that tells a compelling human story at a historic site might resonate. He is suggesting many of them are Section 106 Success Stories, and he also could easily foresee a C-SPAN program featuring the ACHP itself, its role, its function, its history. His goal is to begin to build a relationship with C-SPAN and its viewers who are already naturally historically minded, who are a good match for the ACHP's mission.

Ms. Henry said there is a pilot program being started with the Association for Preservation Technology (APT). APT is working with some high schools to stand up a class or a program on preservation, specifically for intercity and/or underserved community-type high schools.

Vice Chairman Tannenbaum said in addition to commemorating the 250th anniversary, it is also that 2026 is the 60th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act. He said the ACHP can begin to think about some creative ideas to support that. Susan Glimcher added that LHC received funding from the National Trust for Historic Preservation to do the Abuelas Project. Dr. Nichter said for any grant-giving agency this project has legs, and he could see how not just the National Trust, but maybe the National Endowment of the Humanities could be interested in expanding it nationwide.

## **New Business**

Mr. Nelson also mentioned that OFAP staff member Sarah Stokely is leaving the ACHP shortly. She is taking a position in the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management. He also acknowledge that while the recruitment process is underway for an assistant director within OFAP, Jaime Loichinger is single-handedly acting as the assistant director for both sections right now, and will be for the next couple of months until there is a new person on board. He expressed his appreciation to Ms. Loichinger for doing that.



Vice Chairman Tannenbaum said he still hopes that the next business meeting will take place in November, but he does not have a specific date yet.

He took a moment to thank the ACHP members and observers for their participation and for their patience with him. He also wanted to thank the staff, because he was a member of the staff for a decade and can appreciate what they have to deal with and what they do. He said they are the most outstanding, excellent staff that he has ever worked with.

The meeting adjourned at 3:52 p.m.